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978-0-521-82295-4 - Capitalism and Democracy in Central and Eastern Europe:

Assessing the Legacy of Communist Rule

Edited by Grzegorz Ekiert and Stephen E. Hanson

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Capitalism and Democracy in Central and Eastern Europe

Assessing the Legacy of Communist Rule

This volume presents a shared effort to apply a general historical-institutionalist approach to the problem of assessing institutional change in the wake of communism's collapse in Europe. It brings together a number of leading senior and junior scholars with outstanding reputations as specialists in postcommunism and comparative politics to address central theoretical and empirical issues involved in the study of postcommunism. The authors address such questions as how historical "legacies" of the communist regime should be defined, how their impact can be measured in methodologically rigorous ways, and how the effects of temporal and spatial context can be taken into account in empirical research on the region. Taken as a whole, the volume makes an important contribution to the literature by utilizing the comparative historical method to study key problems of world politics.

Grzegorz Ekiert is Professor of Government, Chair of the Committee on Degrees in Social Studies at Harvard University, Senior Scholar at the Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies, and Senior Research Associate at the Center for European Studies. His previous work includes *The State against Society: Political Crises and Their Aftermath in East Central Europe* (1996) and *Rebellious Civil Society: Popular Protest and Democratic Consolidation in Poland* (1999, with Jan Kubik).

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To Igo Bagnowski

To Hobart and Adele Hanson

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